Train Describer System

*211. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Train Describer System was imported and installed at New Delhi Railway Station through Global Tender for improvement in train control and to increase productivity in terms of number of trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the cost of the system, and the year of installation;

(c) whether the system has been performing well and improving the train control; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The system consists of train control & train information system and has indication panel in Control Centre, display boards at New Delhi, Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin & Visual Display Units in Central Enquiry & Enquiry Offices at New Delhi, Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin. The system was commissioned in March, 94 at a cost of approx. Rs. 32 crores out of which 4.35 million ponds was given as grant by Overseas Development Administration - United Kingdom.

(c) and (d). The system has been useful in train control and dissemmination of information to passengers. After contract implementation, layout changes have taken place. The necesary modification required for the same is under consideration.

[Translation]

Sub-Committee on Minerals

*212. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sub-committee on minerals has decided to increase the land ceiling of minerals with a view to encourage foreign companies in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has also decided to increase the limit of capital investment for giving the ownership right to foreign companies; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b). No such Sub-Committee has been appointed. However, Ministry of Mines has recently issued guidelines for grant of areas of more than 25 sq. kms for prospecting licences, where aerial survey is contemplated.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Requirement of Railway Wagons

*213. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated annual requirement of railway wagons of the core sector industries like coal, fertilizer, steel, cement and foodgrains for transportation of their goods during each of the last three years and current year; and

(b) the number of railway wagons given to each of the above industries during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The estimates of freight traffic to be carried by Railways are worked out in million tonnes for every financial year and fixed in consultation with the concerned Ministry and Planning Commission. This estimate is not made in terms of number of wagons. The targets for the commodities of the core sector industries like coal, fertilizer, steel, cement and foodgrains during 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 were as under :-

(Million Tonnes)

Year	Coal	Fertilizer	Steel	Cement	Foodgrains
1993-94	168.00	18.25	12.25	32.50	27.50
1994-95	173.00	22.00	12.00	33.00	22.00
1995-96	181.00	23.00	12.00	31.00	26.00
1996-97 (Full Year)	194.00	23.50	13.50	35.00	27.00
1996-97 (Apr-Sept.)	91.00	10.95	6.30	16.20	12.10